

# B.B. KING MUSEUM AMBASSADORS NEWS LETTER

7th Edition  
August 2021

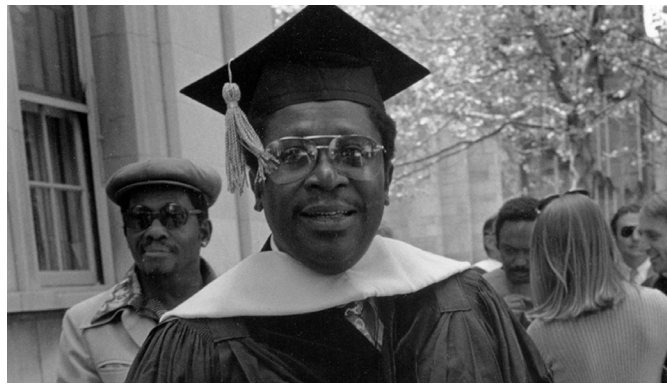
**“The beautiful thing about learning is that no one can take it away from you.”**

- B.B. King

B.B. King never stopped his quest for knowledge; he received honorary doctorate degrees from Tougaloo College, Yale University, Berklee College of Music, Rhodes College, Mississippi Valley State University, and Brown University.

## Goal of the Program

Launched in 2011, the goal of the Ambassadors program is to provide Delta area youth with the opportunity to become actively involved with the Museum and help carry out its outreach mission. The hope is that through this program the Museum will develop long-term partnerships with local schools, enabling students to participate in a series of training experiences and intern opportunities that will help them develop into lifelong learners, productive citizens and community leaders.

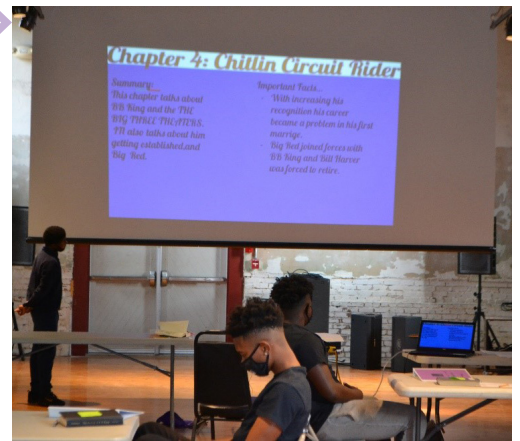


## In This Issue

- Goal of the Program
- Orientation
- Celebrating Culture
- Graduates 2020-2021
- Community Projects
- Meeting Dates

## Celebrating Culture: B.B.'s Bridge Building Ambassadors

November 7, 2020, was the first official in-person meeting day for the Ambassadors. Their day began with them completing a “Do Now” in which they had to answer questions pertaining to the book *The Arrival of B.B. King*. Ambassadors received information presented by Khalilah Ransom, Ambassador Coordinator about the types of leadership styles and how it can impact your ability to be a successful leader. Also, Group 1 and Group 2 presented their group Power Points on their chapters for *The Arrival of B. B. King*.



## Rockin' Out Breast Cancer

In observance of breast cancer awareness, the B.B. King Building Bridge Ambassadors created pink guitars. The guitars are dedicated to breast cancer survivors and deceased loved ones. They were on display at the B.B. King Museum and Delta Interpretive Center during the month of October.



All nine ambassadors graduated and received a certificate of completion on Saturday, May 22nd. The speaker was former ambassador Ariel Galloway. Representative Otis Anthony also presented each Ambassador with a proclamation letter and certificate. Two Ambassadors received perfect attendance, groups 3 and 4 received the challenge award, Kaylin Galvin received the most community service hours' award, and Teonna Wilson was named Ambassador of the Year.

The ambassadors for the 2020-2021 are as follows: Javin Beaman, Najilah Carter, Jeremiah Crawford, Kaylin Galvin, Brikerrria Hall, Xavier Hodo, Jeremiah Jefferson, Teonna Wilson, Bryce Young.

## Community Projects



### Operation Christmas Child Service Project

The B.B. King Ambassadors Youth Leadership Program participated in their first community service project, Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child. The collected shoeboxes are delivered to needy children around the world. The Ambassadors and their parents contributed twenty-five (25) boxes which were delivered to First Baptist Church in Indianola, a local drop-off site, on Monday, Nov. 16th. After delivering the boxes, Mrs. Teresa Spealman prayed with the Ambassadors.



On March 6, 2021, during one of the monthly meetings, the Ambassadors completed a Gallery Scavenger Hunt assignment to answer questions pertaining to the Artist to Icon gallery. The Ambassadors knew the introduction, Sense of Place and The Early Years' gallery information.

## 2020-2021 Graduates

- |                   |                    |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| Javin Beaman      | Xavier Hodo        |
| Najilah Carter    | Jeremiah Jefferson |
| Jeremiah Crawford | Teonna Wilson      |
| Kaylin Galvin     | Bryce Young        |
| Brikerrria Hall   |                    |

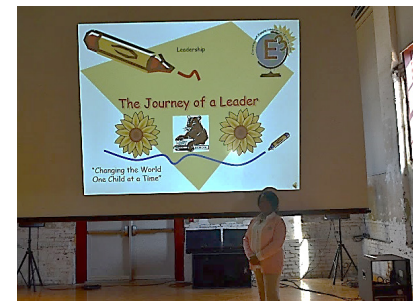
## COVID Statement

During the year of 2020, the state of MS and most of the United States were under shelter in place orders because of the (COVID-19) coronavirus pandemic. Due to this reason the some activities for the B.B. King Ambassadors were virtual during the beginning of the year.

## Ambassadors of the Month

The Ambassadors were given the opportunity to be chosen for Ambassador of the month based on approved criteria. The following Ambassadors met the criteria

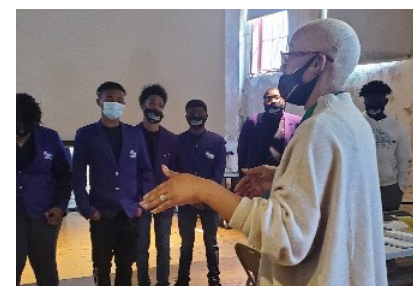
- and were presented a certificate and had their pictures placed in the *Enterprise-Tocsin*.
- Teonna Wilson - November 2020**
- Javin Beamon - December 2020**
- Brikerrria Hall - January 2021**
- Xavier Hodo - March 2021**
- Kaylin Galvin - April 2021**
- Ambassador of the Year - Teonna Wilson**



The third meeting of the 2020-2021 BB's Bridge Building class was held Saturday, November 21, 2020. Mrs. Sawanda Washington, principal at East Sunflower Elementary conducted a session entitled "The Journey of a Leader." After Mrs. Washington's presentation, the Ambassadors defined leadership, the Ambassadors defined leadership, received information on the six leadership styles and took a leadership assessment, which helped them to discover their own leadership style.



On January 16, 2021, the Ambassadors received valuable information from Representative Otis Anthony, II, who represents House District 31, about the importance of forming relationships to get bills passed and never quitting or giving up on their dreams. Rep. Anthony gave his history as a public servant and distributed handouts pertaining to the three branches of government and the bill passing process.



On Saturday, March 6, 2021, the B.B. King Ambassador Leadership Program met with Renata Walker, a representative from Hope Credit Union, to learn about the importance of establishing a good credit score, paying yourself first and being financially responsible. Mrs. Walker also discussed topics such as setting financial goals, budgeting, saving and investing, and managing debt.



On Saturday, December 5, 2020, the Ambassadors received valuable information on how to become an effective B.B. Bridge Building Ambassador from Verna Ransom, museum's education consultant. Mrs. Ransom discussed the importance of learning the history of B.B. King and the museum galleries. Other attributes discussed were public speaking skills and assuming leadership roles.



The B.B. King Bridge Building Youth Leadership Ambassador Program met on Saturday, January 23, 2021, and received valuable information on how the city of Indianola is governed, how monies are received for infrastructure, and other budgetary items from Mayor Rosenthal. Mrs. Rosenthal discussed the importance of volunteerism and community service.



On Saturday, February 6th, the Ambassadors received a Black History lesson from Civil Right Activist, Charles McLaurin. They were given firsthand knowledge of the challenges in Sunflower County during the Civil Rights Era. The Ambassadors were fascinated and actively engaged with questions, concerns and appreciation during Mr. McLaurin's presentation. Mr. McLaurin is also featured in one of the required books for their leadership program, *Let the People Decide* by J. Todd Moyer.



On Saturday, December 12th, B.B. King Bridge Building Ambassadors made and delivered about eighty (80) fruit bags to the local nursing homes. Residents at Indianola Rehabilitation and Healthcare Center and Indywood Personal Care Home received fruits, mints, chocolate and toiletries.



The B.B. King Bridge Building Ambassador Youth Leadership Program held its annual Kite Workshop on Saturday, April 10th. April is National Kite Month which is a celebration to introduce people to the joys of flying kites, its artistry, history and educational use. The Ambassadors presented topics such as the kite's history, parts of a kite, kite assembly and kite safety.



The B.B. King Ambassadors hosted a "Guitar" Scavenger Hunt during the week of Easter. The Ambassadors created clues for some of the local "Harmony Guitars" located in Indianola. Children were asked to solve the clues and return clue sheets to receive a treat bag.

# Contact Us

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Executive Director

# TRAVEL: Alabama, The Delta & Jackson

## Meeting Dates

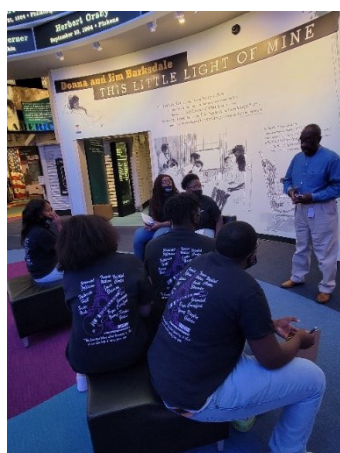
October 17, 2020	February 6, 2021
November 7, 2020	March 6, 2021
November 21, 2020	March 20, 2021
December 5, 2020	March 27, 2021
December 12, 2020	April 10, 2021
January 16, 2021	May 8, 2021
January 23, 2021	



On June 18-20, the Ambassadors travelled to various cities in Alabama to conclude the 2020-2021 B.B. Bridge Building Ambassadors Youth Leadership Program. The trip included stops and tours in Selma, AL, Montgomery, AL, and Birmingham, AL. The trip allowed the Ambassadors to continue their educational museum experience by visiting the Edmund Pettus Bridge & Selma Interpretive Center, the Rosa Parks Arrest Site, the National Memorial for Peace and Justice and the Legacy Museum, the Freedom Rides Museum, and the Birmingham Civil Rights Institute.



The B.B.'s Bridge Building Ambassadors toured the Mississippi Delta to explore blues markers and historical sites on Saturday, March 20, 2021. They were accompanied by Ambassador Coordinator, Khalilah Ransom. The tour began in Indianola, MS, which included stops by Club Ebony, Church Street, a marker of young Riley King, and Albert King. The Ambassadors then headed to Holly Ridge, MS, to the gravesite of Charley Patton, the Founder of the Delta Blues. They passed through Leland, MS, to view blues markers for Highways 61 & 10, Ruby's Nite Spot, and Johnny Winter, and Son Thomas. The tour ended in Shaw, MS, where they viewed the blues marker of David "Honeyboy" Edwards.



On May 8, 2021, the ambassadors visited the MS Civil Rights Museum in Jackson, MS. The museum contains eight galleries that focus on the years of 1945-1976 when MS was ground zero for the national Civil Rights Movement. The ambassadors were divided into three groups and were each given three galleries to review and take notes. They also received a very heartening account from Hezekiah Watkins about his experiences during the Civil Rights Era.

# JACKSON



NATIONAL ENDOWMENT  
FOR THE HUMANITIES

*B.B.'s Bridge Building Ambassadors Youth Leadership Program is sponsored by the Feild-Cooperative Association, Inc., Community Foundation of Northwest Mississippi, National Endowment for the Humanities and the B.B. King Museum and Delta Interpretive Center.*

